

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (cancelled)
2. (currently amended) The process described in ~~claim 1~~ claim 8, characterized in that the process is cyclic ~~or repetitive by repeating different parts of the treatment on the same batch of contaminated material being treated.~~
3. (currently amended) The process described in ~~claim 1~~ claim 8, characterized in that the mixing of contaminated material ~~soil and/or sediment and/or cuttings~~ with the chemical reagent that contains calcium oxide is repeated, and ~~letting said allowing of the mixture of chemical reagent plus soil and/or sediment and/or cuttings to rest is repeated.~~
4. (currently amended) The process described in ~~claim 1~~ claim 8, characterized in that the step where organic conditioners are added to the homogenized mixture of chemical reagent plus contaminated material ~~soil and/or sediment and/or cuttings~~ is repeated, ~~to~~ and subsequently extending the homogenized ~~material~~ mixture in a layer for curing.
5. (currently amended) The process described in ~~claim 1~~ claim 8, characterized in that the calcium hydroxide ~~oxides~~ used in the mixture ~~are preferentially calcium monoxide (quick lime), calcium hydroxide (hydrated lime), or any combination of these,~~ is from formulations or natural mineral sources.

6. (currently amended) The process described in ~~claim 1~~ claim 8, characterized in that the chemical reagent applied to the mixture contains substances which convert to calcium hydroxide ~~oxides~~ when in contact with soil, sediment, cuttings, water moisture, ~~of free~~ or free water.

7. (currently amended) The process described in ~~claim 1~~ claim 8, characterized in that the organic conditioners that are added to the mixture of chemical reagent with the other materials is selected from the group consisting ~~consists~~ of sawdust, coconut husk, straw, alfalfa, ~~rice husk~~, pineapple wastes, citrus wastes, pasture, marshy vegetation, organic peat, bamboo wastes, eucalyptus wastes, banana wastes, sugar cane cachasse, sugar cane bagasse, cacao husk, cow manure, horse manure, pig manure, goat manure, ~~or~~ and mixtures thereof.

8. (new) A process of chemical-biological stabilization for the remediation of soil and cuttings contaminated with oils and derivatives of petroleum, in which the transformation of the organic contaminant into an inoffensive material is achieved, comprising:

(a) confining contaminated material selected from the group consisting of soil, sediment, drilling cuttings contaminated with petroleum derivatives, and combinations thereof;

(b) mixing said contaminated material with a chemical reagent that contains calcium hydroxide (hydrated lime) in concentrations of between approximately 1 and 10 percent on a dry weight basis of the contaminated material to provide a homogenized mixture;

(c) allowing the mixture to rest for a period of time between about 2 hours and about 180 natural days;

(d) thereafter adding at least one organic conditioner to the homogenized mixture at a concentration of between approximately 1 and about 15 percent on a dry weight basis of the mixture to provide a conditioned mixture; and

(e) curing the conditioned mixture by mineralization and humidification processes during an at-rest period which is between about 15 and about 730 natural days.

9. (new) The process described in claim 8, wherein said confining is an area having dimensions adequate to accommodate the contaminated material at a depth of not greater than about 50 cm.

10. (new) The process described in claim 9, further including grading the contaminated material with a grade between about 1 percent and about 2 percent.

11. (new) The process described in claim 8, wherein said confining further includes using a liner of at least about 30 mil (approximately 0.76 mm) thick of high density polyethylene (HDPE), thermally sealed.

12. (new) The process described in claim 8, wherein a moisture level of the mixture is between about 70 weight percent and about 100 weight percent, based upon the total weight of the mixture during the allowing-to-rest procedure.

13. (new) The process described in claim 8, further including positioning the contaminated material on a drainage surface selected from the group consisting of sand, gravel, sandy soil, and the like, said positioning providing the mixture including

contaminated material at a thickness of between about 5 and about 150 cm.

14. (new) The process described in claim 8, further including adding inorganic nutrients to the conditioned mixture.

15. (new) The process described in claim 8, further including planting vegetation with the conditioned mixture.